

## Newsletter for English Teachers June 2005

This Newsletter for English Teachers is a monthly publication by the Information Resource Centers in Germany. It focuses on American Studies topics of relevance to our academic audiences.

\* June 2005 *Black Music Month* \*  
\* Youth Culture \* Flag Day \* Commencement Day \*  
\* Anglodeutsch, Denglish or Germish ? \*

### President Bush Proclaims June 2005 "Black Music Month"

President Bush paid tribute June 2 to the "rich musical tradition" that African-American musicians, singers and composers have contributed to American and world culture. Bush issued a proclamation designating June 2005 as "Black Music Month." Recalling the music's origins in work songs and spirituals, the president said, "This powerful, moving and soulful music speaks to every heart," lifting listeners in times of sorrow and helping them celebrate in times of joy.



The Black Music Association first proposed Black Music Month in 1978. President Jimmy Carter first declared June Black Music Month in 1979.

Full text <http://www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2005/06/20050602-1.html>

#### Links: **About the USA: Arts & Entertainment - Music**

<http://usa.usembassy.de/arts-music.htm>

"The development of the arts in America has been marked by a tension between two strong sources of inspiration - European sophistication and domestic originality." *About the USA* offers extensive information on music.

#### **Arts in America: Music - The Quintessential American Sound**

<http://usa.usembassy.de/etexts/art/music0403.pdf>

"The early years of the 21<sup>st</sup> century have yet to provide a clear-cut sense of where music in America is heading, but through the mixed signals, it's possible to draw some promising conclusions."

#### **World Book: Heart and Soul - A Celebration of African American Music**

<http://www2.worldbook.com/features/aamusic/html/intro.htm>

World Book editors have assembled a look at some of the most famous African American musicians and the impact they have made on different forms of music.

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## Youth Culture

### Hip-Hop and Youth Culture - Contemplations on an Emerging Cultural Phenomenon

Carl S. Taylor, Ph.D., and Virgil Taylor

*Journal of Urban Youth Culture, January 2004, online edition*

<http://www.juyc.org/current/0401/hiphop.html>

"Throughout the last twenty-five years, a new form of expression has continued to evolve... Hip-Hop, once limited to urban music and dance has become a widespread form of communication exhibited and enjoyed by young people throughout the world." In 15 video sequences, Dr. Taylor answers questions ranging from "What is urban youth culture?" to "Will Hip-Hop become political?" The short clippings (0.30 min - 3.30 min) can be used in the English language classroom as a listening comprehension exercise. Please click here for the [Online Text](#) and the [Video Transcript](#).

#### Links: Journal of Urban Youth Culture -

An "online journal devoted to exploring positive youth development"

<http://www.juyc.org>

#### Yale-New Haven Teachers Institute: The Evolution of Rap Music in United States

<http://www.yale.edu/ynhti/curriculum/units/1993/4/93.04.04.x.html>

#### Profile of America's Youth

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services - Administration for Children and Families

<http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/fysb/youthinfo/profile.htm>

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## Flag Day: June 14

Flag Day is observed in the United States to commemorate the adoption of the *Stars and Stripes* by the Continental Congress on June 14, 1777.

#### Links: U.S. Embassy: Celebrate! Holidays in the U.S.A. - Flag Day

[http://usa.usembassy.de/etexts/hol/celebrate\\_flagday.pdf](http://usa.usembassy.de/etexts/hol/celebrate_flagday.pdf)

#### EDSITEment: Stars and Stripes Forever: Flag Facts for Flag Day

[http://edsitement.neh.gov/view\\_lesson\\_plan.asp?id=338](http://edsitement.neh.gov/view_lesson_plan.asp?id=338)

#### The National Flag Day Foundation: Flag Day Educational Materials

<http://www.flagday.org/Pages/EducationalMaterials.html>



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## Commencement Day

"May and June is the time of year when commencement ceremonies are held at American colleges and universities. On Commencement Day, students receive a degree or diploma for the successful completion of a prescribed course of study - at both the bachelor and graduate levels. The term commencement is often used synonymously with graduation."



AP Wide World Photos

#### Links: About the USA: In Focus - Commencement Day

<http://www.usembassy.de/germany/usa.html>

**About the USA: Education**

<http://usa.usembassy.de/society-education.htm>

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**Anglodeutsch, Denglish or Germish ?**

... describe "language based on the German grammar that includes a jumble of English and pseudo-English idioms, or vice versa." (source: Wikipedia <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Denglisch>)

**Sprechen wir Anglodeutsch?**

By Ruth Walker

From the April 8, 2005 edition

<http://www.csmonitor.com/2005/0408/p18s03-hfes.html>

"As I wade daily in the verbal streams that flow through Medialand, English seems to be getting more Germanic every day. Not that German is conquering English; overwhelmingly, English vocabulary is crowding into German, as into many other languages. For instance, when I spoke with Tom Bonfiglio of the University of Richmond in Virginia, he talked of "neue Anglodeutsch," a blend of German and American words that is widely used, especially in northern Germany, especially in computers and technology."

**Denglish' is on the march**

By Richard Bernstein

IHT November 21, 2004

<http://www.iht.com/articles/2004/12/20/news/journal.html>

"Not long ago, the airline Lufthansa made a bit of news when it changed its slogan from "There's No Better Way to Fly," in English, to the German, "Alles für diesen Moment," or "Everything for this Moment." What was the German national carrier doing with an English slogan aimed at its German clientele in the first place? Whatever it was doing, many companies in German have used English, or some mishmash of German and English - the not very beautiful term for this is Denglish, a combination of Deutsche and English - to appeal to their German customers."

**Opinion: Desperately Ditching Denglish**

DW-World.de - Deutsche Welle

<http://www.dw-world.de/dw/article/0,1564,1395083,00.html>

"After several misguided years of using bad English to woo customers, German advertisers have apparently rediscovered their own language. It may not help ailing retailers much, but limiting silly Denglish is long overdue."

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**Impressum:**

US-Generalkonsulat Leipzig \* Information Resource Center \* Wilhelm-Seyffert-Str. 4 \* 04107 Leipzig

\* Tel.: (0341) 213 84 25 \* Fax: (0341) 213 84 43 \* E-Mail: [ircleipzig@state.gov](mailto:ircleipzig@state.gov)

Internet: <http://www.usembassy.de/germany/irc/>

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## EVENTS AND PROGRAMS

Nach erfolgreichem Gastspiel in Columbus/ Ohio meldet sich zum Schuljahresabschluß das Puppentheater Sterntaler zurück:

### "THE FISHERMAN AND HIS WIFE"

*Theater mit Figuren, Menschen und Objekten*

**23. und 24. Juni 2005**

**Beginn ist jeweils 9.30 Uhr**

Fast jeder kennt das Grimmsche Märchen "Vom Fischer und seiner Frau", in dem der Fischer einen verzauberten Fisch fängt, der dann der Fischersfrau alle Wünsche erfüllt, bis die Gier jede Grenze überschreitet. Am Ende sitzen der Fischer und seine Frau wieder im alten Pißpott. Es lohnt sich, darüber nachzudenken, wie sich der Fischer und seine Frau hätten verhalten können.

Wenn 60 Schüler für eine Vorstellung zusammenkommen, ist auch an beiden Tagen eine Sondervorstellung zu einer Wunsch-Zeit möglich. Auf Wunsch wird Ihnen ein Vokabelblatt mit einigen Redewendungen und wenig gebräuchlichen Wörtern zugeschickt. Anfragen an Susanne Böhmel ([Puppentheater\\_Boehmel@web.de](mailto:Puppentheater_Boehmel@web.de)).

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### Shri - Arizona Blues Band

"Shri" (a title of respect taken from Sanskrit) is an Arizona-based Blues group that is quickly becoming an international sensation. "Shri" will perform concerts in Saxony and Saxony-Anhalt in August.

14.08. Grimma, Liederflut

15.08. Leipzig, Open Air Reihe am Bachdenkmal

20.08. Chemnitz, Club Arthur Bluesnacht

21.08. Sondershausen, Erlebnisbergwerk

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